

Message Text

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ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 ARA-10 EA-09 NEA-10

EB-07 AID-05 ACDA-10 ERDA-07 OES-07 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 EPA-04 TRSE-00 OMB-01 AGRE-00

COME-00 /116 W

-----170622Z 028706 /11

R 161032Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8212

INFO USUN NEW YORK 1144

USMISSION GENEVA

RUDTCXAMEMBASSY LONDON 2786

AMCONSUL MONTREAL

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

UNCLAS NAIROBI 6028

LONDON FOR IMCO

MONTREAL FOR ICAO

PARIS FOR UNESCO

ROME FOR FODAG

VIENNA FOR IAEA AND UNIDO

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, UNEP

SUBJ: UNEP PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE

SUMMARY: TOLBA, CONFERENCE SECRETARY-GENERAL, ANTICIPATES
REWRITING CONFERENCE ACTION PLAN. INTENDS TO MAKE EXTENSIVE
CHANGES WITH FOCUS ON COMBATTING DESERTIFICATION RATHER
THAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. TWENTY-FIVE NATIONS INTERVENED,
GENERALLY APPLAUDING THE DOCUMENTATION BUT ALMOST ALL REQUEST-
ING IDENTIFICATION OF PRIORITY RECOMMENDATIONS. ALL AGREE
EXISTING INSTITUTIONS ADEQUATE TO FOLLOW-ON CONFERENCE.

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1. IN OPENING STATEMENT, TOLBA DESCRIBED RESTRUCTURING OF
ACTION PLAN TO EMPHASIZE IMMEDIATE ACTION, LAND MANAGEMENT,
INCLUSION OF WATER CONFERENCE RESULTS IN MONITORING OF THE
HUMAN CONDITION. IN ADDITION, RECOMMENDATIONS FROM
REGIONAL MEETINGS WILL BE ADDED, CONCERNED WITH BAN ON
CHEMICAL AND BACTERIAL WEAPONS WHICH LEAD TO DESERTIFICA-

TION, RECOMMENDATIONS ON EDUCATION AND TRAINING, LAND TENURE, AFFORESTATION AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS. SECTIONS ON RANGE AND LIVESTOCK MONITORING AND GREENBELT ALSO WILL BE ALTERED.

2. PARTICULARLY SIGNIFICANT INTERVENTIONS BY FOLLOWING COUNTRIES: POLAND AND UK EMPHASIZED EXISTING INSTITUTIONS ADEQUATE WITH UK STRESSING NEED FOR PRECISE ACCOUNTING OF 1977 EXPENDITURES. BOTH REQUESTED SPECIFICITY OF RECOMMENDATIONS BE INCREASED AND PRIORITIES IDENTIFIED. USSR MENTIONED SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC FACTORS AND OVERUSE WERE CAUSING DESERTIFICATION, NOT CLIMATIC CHANGE. ALSO CRITICIZED LACK OF CLARITY ON WHO WILL PAY FOR FOLLOW-UP ACTIVITIES. MENTIONED THAT NO SPECIFICS ON INTERNATIONAL FUND PURPOSES, SO COULD NOT MAKE SUGGESTIONS REGARDING FUND AT THIS TIME. CHINESE SUPPORTED CALLING CONFERENCE AND MENTIONED THEY WILL SEND DELEGATION. IN THE LONG RUN THEY COMMITTED TO TECHNICAL REMEDIES, ALONG WITH REDUCTIONS IN HEGEMONY, CAPITALISM AND IMPERIALISM, TO BE KEY. YUGOSLAVIA MENTIONED THEY ANTICIPATE CSCE MEETING IN JUNE WILL DEAL WITH COMBATTING DESERTIFICATION IN MEDITERRANEAN COUNTRIES. BRAZIL COMMENTED IT WAS PREMATURE TO DISCUSS INSTITUTIONS BEFORE THE CONFERENCE AND REQUESTED THAT NORTHEAST BRAZIL BE REMOVED FROM THE MAP OF DESERTIFICATION ON THE GROUNDS THAT THE SOIL, VEGETATION AND CLIMATE IN THIS AREA DID NOT MAKE IT A TRUE DESERT. SENEGAL IDENTIFIED ITS PRIORITIES FOR CONFERENCE ACTION, WHICH INCLUDED PROTECTION AGAINST FIRE, PREVENTION OF OVERGRAZING, DEVELOPMENT OF IMPROVED ENERGY SOURCES, DAM

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POSED A SMALL SECRETARIATE IN UNEP.

3. TOLBA RESPONDED TO INDIVIDUAL COMMENTS OF COUNTRIES BY NAME. IN RESPONSE TO US STATEMENT ON WHICH HE DWELLED AT LENGTH, HE EMPHASIZED NEED FOR SOME RESEARCH, AGREED THAT INSTITUTIONAL ARRANGEMENTS SHOULD BE LINKED TO SCOPE OF THE ACTION PLAN AND EMPHASIZED HIS INTEREST IN KEEPING CONFERENCE ON TRACK OF COMBATTING DESERTIFICATION BUT WITHIN A DEVELOPMENT CONTEXT. IN RESPONSE TO US REQUEST FOR INSTITUTIONAL OPTIONS, HE RESPONDED THAT IN HIS VIEW ONLY ONE OPTION EXISTED, I.E., FOLLOW-UP UNDER DIRECTION OF ECB SINCE ENTIRE UN SYSTEM WOULD HAVE TO BE INVOLVED. HE ALSO INDICATED HIS INTENTION TO CONDUCT WORKSHOP IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING CONFERENCE TO ASSURE THAT IMMEDIATE PLANS WERE MADE TO FOLLOW-UP ON RECOMMENDATIONS. HE ANTICIPATED CONFERENCE WOULD COST APPROXIMATELY \$1.04 MILLION WITH ANNUAL FOLLOW-UP COSTS OF 1/2 MILLION DOLLARS PER YEAR.

LINDSTROM

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: COMMITTEES, PLANNING MEETINGS, SOIL EROSION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 16-May-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
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Format: TEL
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Handling Restrictions: n/a
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Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
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Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
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Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2505999
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: UNEP PREPARATORY COMMITTEE FOR DESERTIFICATION CONFERENCE SUMMARY: TOLBA, CONFERENCE SECRETARY-GENERAL, ANTICIPATES REWRITING CONFERENCE ACTION PLAN . INTENDS TO MAKE
TAGS: SENV, OCON, KE, UNEP
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvkey: odhc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/411c4693-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009